from the banks and financial institutions; and

(c) whether Government propose to empower the Development Commissioner to act as a single clearance agency inclusive of finance through the EXIM Bank of India, or any other source?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise. .. ..

(c) There is no proposal to empower the Development Commissioner of the Export Processing Zone to act as a clearance agency for securing finance through banks. Loans are extended by banks and financial institutions only according to their duly constituted procedures.

Setting up of diamond cutting factories in China

2006. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two leading Indian diamond export houses are setting up diamond cutting factories in China;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) what is the quantum of export of these companies during the last three years, year-wise;

(d) whether some other diamond exporters are also planning to set up diamond factories in other countries and if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether this move is likely to pose a threat to the Indian diamond exports in the world diamond markets; and

(f) if so, what is the reaction of Government in this regard;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) The Government is not aware of any Indian diamond export houses setting up diamond cutting factories in China.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) The Government is not aware of any move on the part of Indian diamond exporters to set up diamond processing factories in other countries.

(e) and (f) If any such move materialises and diamond processing units come up in other countries, it will become necessary to examine its implications for and impact on Indian diamond processing industry.

Condition in asbestos industry

2007. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI TALARI MANOHAR:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether asbestos industry continues to operate as before without due care of their workers' health;

(b) whether it is a fact that despite the declaration of asbestos industry as a dangerous process under Section 87 of the Factories Act, 1948 several State Governments have not so far taken necessary steps in their states and if so, the details of such States; and

((c) whether the Report of the Committee on Health Hazards is a secret document under the Official Secrets Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) Asbestos factories are covered under the Factories Act, 1948 and the Rules framed thereunder by the